

Committed to the future of rural communities.

Free Broadband Awareness Workshop

THE USDA RURAL BROADBAND ACCESS LOAN AND LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM

SEPTEMBER 14, 2005 Dallas Marriott Las Colinas 223 West Las Colinas Boulevard Irving, TX

We invite you to attend a **FREE** information session on September 14, 2005 at the *Broadband Properties Summit 2005*, and hear from the USDA Rural Development - Utilities Programs staff about financing that is available now for deployment of Broadband and telecommunications services in rural communities. Rural Development has more than **\$2 billion in funding** available this year for the *Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program*. The information sessions will provide detailed information for prospective loan and loan guarantee applicants and other interested parties on the eligibility requirements for the program and the types of loans available. Also covered are the loan application process and requirements, including: Loan Purpose, Loan Maturity, The Business Plan, The Market Survey, The Engineering/System Design, Financial Information, Credit Support, Loan Collateral and Security Requirements.

Agenda

1:00 p.m. Welcoming Remarks and Information on USDA Rural Development (USDA-RD)
- Bryan Daniel, Texas State Director, USDA Rural Development
- Curtis M. Anderson, Acting Administrator, USDA Rural Development, Utilities Programs

1:30 p.m. The Broadband Awareness Workshop
- Pam Bennett, Broadband Division, USDA - RD Telecommunications Programs
- Michael Becker, General Field Representative, USDA - RD Telecommunications Programs
- Jose De Leon, General Field Representative, USDA - RD Telecommunications Programs

4:00 p.m. Workshop ends; Individual meetings with USDA Rural Development Broadband staff and field representatives as desired.

NOTE: The Broadband Loan Application Guide will be provided at the workshop. You can also download the guide from the Rural Development website at http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/broadband.htm.

About the USDA Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program:

The USDA Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program provide loans and loan guarantees for the construction, improvement, and acquisition of facilities and equipment for broadband service in eligible rural communities. Priority is given to applications that are proposing to serve areas where no residential broadband service currently exists. Information on the USDA Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program is available at: http://www.rurdev.usda.gov.

How to Register for the USDA Broadband Awareness Workshop:

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To register, please contact <u>Tammy Kelch</u> at <u>Tammy.Kelch@usda.gov</u> or 202-690-3128. **Please provide attendee name, organization/company, address, phone number, and email address.** Please indicate if you would like an individual appointment with the Broadband staff following the conclusion of the workshop. For additional information on the workshop, please contact Mary Campanola, USDA Rural Development, at <u>Mary.Campanola@usda.gov</u> or 202-720-8822. Media contact: Claiborn Crain, USDA Rural Development at <u>claiborn.crain@usda.gov</u> or 202-720-1263.

Hotel Information and Directions

The Dallas Marriott Las Colinas is located at 223 West Las Colinas Boulevard in Irving, TX. For reservations please call 1-972-831-0000 or 1-800-228-9290. For complete hotel information, or to book your reservations online, please visit http://marriott.com/property/property/page/dalcl?WT Ref=mi left.

Directions from Dallas Fort Worth International Airport (DFW): Take north exit from DFW Airport to Highway114 East, exit on O'Connor Blvd., turn left on O'Connor Blvd, proceed ¼ mile to Las Colinas Blvd. Turn left (West), hotel is 1 block on the right at 223 West Las Colinas Blvd.

Directions from Dallas Love Field (DAL): Exit Airport and go South on Mockingbird Lane to Highway 183, go West on 183 and follow signs to Highway 114. Exit 114 on O'Connor, go right on O'Connor to Las Colinas Blvd. Turn left (West), hotel is 1 block on the right.

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